

# Seattle Human Rights Commission

## Meeting Minutes

Thursday, September 5th, 2013, 6:00–8:00 p.m.

City Hall - Boards and Commissions Room

### Commissioners Present:

Nika Dahlbacka, Alejandra Gonza, Catherine Moore, Marsha Mavunkel, Andrea Negrete, Marty Penner, Greg Ramirez, Jennifer Yogi, Christina Ygon

### Commissioners Absent:

Katherine Beckett, David Lujano,

### SOCR Staff Present:

Michael Chin, Julie Nelson, Ronald Ramp

### Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 6:00

### SOCR report:

Michael Chin/Julie Nelson

- **Audit:** The draft audit from the City Auditor's office was discussed. The audit is primarily around Enforcement and the Appeals process. The commission can respond with comments on the draft report. The commission can include a response letter in the final report. It was mentioned the report seemed to be vague and contain generalizations. Some of the recommendations seemed to be based on perception; and lacked a factual basis. It was noted the report's conclusions were based on small segregated part of the city's overall population. The commission is opposed to **option #3** on page 16 "Create a quasi-judicial appeals panel separate from the Seattle Human Rights Commission that only hears appeals, and whose membership includes representatives from a broad array of community interests, including the business community." Recommendation **option 6** was discussed. This is around the SHRC attending cases that are before the Hearing Examiner. The last time a case went to the Hearing Examiner was in 2009, and the commission did not attend. It was noted this should be a lower priority since this is rare, and participation by the commission is optional. Julie Nelson talked about impartiality. It was suggested a work group convened to work on improving appeals customer service.
- **Intake Investigator:** Mike Chin from SOCR advised SOCR will be hiring an Intake Investigator. This is a new structure that will allow much less transitioning into and out of Intake. This should be a more efficient way to handle the work.

- **Gender Pay Equity:** Julie Nelson discussed the Gender Equity in Pay Task Force. This task force will meet 5 times once a month before the end of the year. The Task Force will make recommendations on how the city can reduce gender pay inequities in the city. This is a prelude to a launch of a Gender and Justice Initiative in 2014.

### **New Business:**

The retreat was discussed. Possible dates include, 28<sup>th</sup> or 29<sup>th</sup>. A possible doodle was suggested. The workplan will be on the retreat agenda. More planning will take place.

### **Committee Reports:**

#### **Executive**

#### **Update Andrea Brenneke:**

Andrea will be working with the commission around restorative justice and homeless issues. It was decided not to begin this work until after the elections. Both parties are still interested.

#### **Police in Car Video**

At the last Community Police Commission meeting there were some sticking points around camera triggers. SHRC feels it is important for the car door be a trigger to start the camera. With our climate corrosion was a concern. It was felt this should be tested in light of the accountability benefit from this trigger. A dome light trigger was discussed as an alternative to the door. It was discussed that the data should be collected by a 3<sup>rd</sup> party or electronically; it should not be handed by the officers that could be affected by the video.

**CIR Letter and Resolution** The commission signed off on a letter and resolution regarding issues around Comprehensive Immigration Reform. This was effort led by the I&R commission.

#### **Latino Film Festival**

SHRC being partner with the Latino Film Festival (activities related to films with HR, social justice topics), sharing our logo in their outreach and trying to get support from Seattle gov. The festival will be from October 4<sup>th</sup> to 13 and they have an open gala the 4<sup>th</sup> at 9 PM.

Meeting Adjourned 8:00